

**Martin County Sheriff's Office**

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**SCAM ALERT — MARTIN COUNTY**

MCSO is seeing a sharp increase in scams especially those targeting elderly residents in Martin County. Just this week alone, citizens have lost between \$30,000 and \$40,000 to fraudsters.

One scam involves callers claiming to be from a victim's bank, saying the account has been compromised. The caller then sends a "courier" to the victim's home to collect cash for "safekeeping." Banks do not send couriers to pick up cash. If someone asks for this, it is a scam.

Another scam involves fake bond requests. Fraudsters monitor recent arrests, locate family members online, and call claiming a loved one has been jailed. They then demand bond payment over the phone. Bond is never paid over the phone. Any request like this is fraudulent.

These scams are becoming more aggressive, more convincing, and more costly. We are urging everyone to spread this warning immediately. Please talk to your neighbors—especially senior citizens—your parents, grandparents, friends, and family members.

If you receive a call demanding money, cash pickup, gift cards, or payment over the phone, hang up. The only way we can conquer this issue is to make everyone aware that it is occurring. Please help us spread the word.

URGENT



SCAM ALERT